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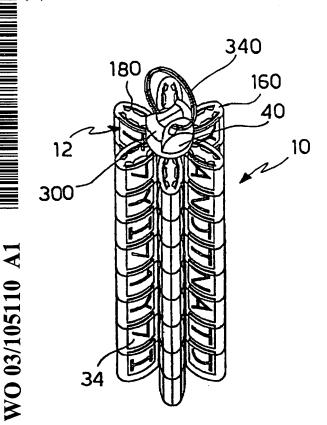
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(54) Title: DEVICE FOR AUTOMATIC READING OF A PLURALITY OF CODES BY MEANS OF A SINGLE KEY CODE



(57) Abstract: A device (10) for the automatic reading of a plurality of codes by means of a key code exceptionally suitable for maintaining a plurality of codes secret and making them available with the introduction of a key code, comprises a plurality of drums (12) adapted to rotate around an axis (14) and a plurality of inserts (34) provided with visible faces suitable for carrying distinctive elements. The inserts (34) are connected in a movable manner along the side edge of each of the said drums to form strings. The drums (12) can be place side by side in an axial direction in order to align all the distinctive elements of a plurality of drums and are inserted on a rod (38) that includes a first stop (40) fixed to one end of the rod itself. A second stop (42) is fixed to the opposite end and locked on the rod.

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C 7 G09C1/08 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) G09C IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° 1-46 GB 187 312 A (ALBERT HENKELS) Α 16 October 1922 (1922-10-16) the whole document 1 - 46DE 107 347 C (GIOVANNI VALVASORI) A 27 December 1899 (1899-12-27) the whole document Patent family members are listed in annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents: 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 19/05/2003 12 May 2003 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Simonini, S Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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